

REMARKS

Claims 1-51 remain under active prosecution in the present application. Claims 38-51 are withdrawn from consideration. Applicants respectfully assert that all amendments are supported by the original disclosure and do not introduce new matter.

Applicants have amended the first sentence of the specification to correctly claim priority to provisional application 60/139,423, filed 6/16/1999.

Applicants herein renew their petition to the Commissioner under 35 USC 119(e) and 37 CFR 1.78(a)(5) to accept an unintentionally delayed claim for priority. Applicants state that the entire delay between the date the claim for priority was due under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(5) and the date the claim was filed was unintentional. The prior application reference is attached.

Applicants have already paid the fee for this petition, as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(t). The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment of fees to Frost Brown Todd LLC Deposit Account No. 06-2226.

In light of the amendments and remarks made herein, it is respectfully submitted that the claims currently pending in the present application are in form for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of those claims, as amended herein, is earnestly solicited. Applicants encourage the Examiner to contact their representative, Stephen R. Albainy-Jenei at (513) 651-6839 or salbainyjenei@fbtlaw.com.

Respectfully submitted,
THOMAS D. REED, et al.



By _____

Stephen R. Albainy-Jenei
Registration No. 41,487
Attorney for Applicant(s)
FROST BROWN TODD LLC
2200 PNC Center
201 East Fifth Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
(513) 651-6823
salbainyjenei@fbtlaw.com

Serial No. 10/018,697

Response dated May 30, 2006

Reply to Decision on Petition dated May 4, 2006

"Express Mail" Mailing Label Number:

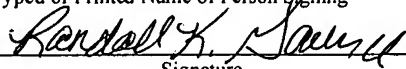
EV 814708207 US

Date of Deposit: May 30, 2006

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited in the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 and is addressed to Mail Stop PETITIONS, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Randall K. Gaunce

Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing


Signature

CINLibrary 0091830.0503228 1637905v.1